To: Justice Department of U.S.

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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I protest what several states have done to try to block the Microsoft settlement with the Justice Department. Their demands are unreasonable and not in the best interests of consumers. It is obvious that what they call for is the opposite to the intention and whole purpose of anti-trust laws. What the States want seems to destroy and devastate the competitive spirit of the great company that built the platform for the Internet. This is overkill! This is a shot that aims at the central theme of the whole American free enterprise system, fair competition. Antitrust laws should try to protect not to disrupt fair and reasonable competition. WHAT THE STATES WANT SEEMS TO BE TO PROTECT MICROSOFT 'S COMPETITORS FROM THE RESPONSIBILITY OF INVENTING BETTER TECHNOLOGY TO BETTER COMPETE. I notice that the location of the states that won't sign off on the settlement seems significant.

The Justice Department settlement was a recognition that this case has dragged on too long. This has already hurt the American economy and non-settlement will continue to harm the already weakened economy. Ultimately if it hurts the economy, it will weaken the "War on Terrorism."

I have never been convinced of the accusation that Microsoft has ever charged too much for its products. I have never heard any consumer accuse Microsoft of this; only competitors have accused them. I am confident that the new Judge who presides over this case will recognize this as well. It appears to me that competitors are trying to become guilty of the very same error for which they blame Microsoft, seeking an unfair advantage.

I strongly urge the Justice Department to stand FIRMLY and STEADFASTLY on the adequate agreement already hammered out by the two parties in the present settlement. If you do this, the Justice Department, the free enterprise system and the American consumer will be the winners.